

T H E
P R O C E E D I N G S

O F

J. HEWITT, Alderman,

And one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the City and
County of COVENTRY, in the Year 1756.

Being a particular Account of the Gang of Coiners, apprehended in the Counties of OX-
FORD, WARWICK, and STAFFORD, pursued by the Author; Nine of whom were com-
mitted to the Goal of this City; part of whom were Tried, Convicted, and Executed
there in 1756: With Abstracts from their Letters, Papers, &c. found upon them
from their several Agents, and Accomplices, both Abroad and in different Parts of
this Kingdom. Their principal Agents who made large Sums will be pointed out;
the Cause they owed their Escape from the Punishments due to their Crimes will be
stated, and their several Connections with the LANCASHIRE and YORKSHIRE Coiners, of
whom *Thomas Lightowler* was a particular Instructor, will be set forth.

The EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES of the said

THOMAS LIGHTOWLLER,

The greatest mechanical Genius of his Time;

Who escaped from this Kingdom, when *Stell*, and others of that numerous of Gang YORK-
SHIRE Coiners, were Apprehended, and Committed to York Castle. *Thomas Lightowler*
was lately in the Service of the Emperess Queen at Vienna, and had a Pension of 300l.
per Annum.

I N T W O B O O K S.

B O O K I.



BIRMINGHAM: Printed for the AUTHOR, in the Year M,DCC,LXXXIII.



The following lines having been worked off without the Author's having had the opportunity of correcting them, the following Erratas are added.

ERRATA.

Page 7, line the 3d for *impart* read *emply*. Page 8, line the 1st, for *imparting* read *im-
pörting*, ditto line the 3d, for *denominations* read *dominions*. Page 52, line the 1st, for *neces-
sity* read *necessary*, ditto line the 4th for *what* read *which*. Page the 48th line the 1st for
your read *there*, ditto line the 13th, for *was* read *were*.

THOMAS EIGHTH WALTER

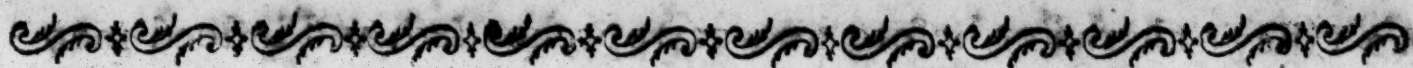
the greatest mechanical genius of his time;

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Manuscript: Printed for the Author, in the Year M.DCC.LXXXIII.



To the R E A D E R.

THE letters I have published, will confirm the history I have given of this extraordinary man, and will shew with what caution, and how circumspectly officers should be directed to proceed in the apprehending of offenders, the importance of securing the papers, letters, or pocket books, which frequently tend to discovery, and prove the most certain evidence for convicting the offenders, as well as their accomplices; upon the first outset much depends, and after apprehending the offender or offenders, the taking the examination carefully before any commitment is made, no opportunity for conversation or tokens to pass betwixt accomplices, or the receivers and buyers of their stolen goods. After commitment, and time for recollection after the first surprize is over, confessions are not so frequently made, neither will they be received in a public court of justice with that credit, as when taken before imprisonment: patience and perseverance in the magistrate is highly necessary, that he doth not adjourn his proceedings until he hath acquired every circumstantial account the prisoner will give, it matters not whether true or false, or ever so trifling, it may happen to be of the greatest consequence, either to confirm the charge, or acquit the accused, and care should be taken that nothing transpires until the accused is committed or dismissed: as I shall hereafter have much to say on the cautious manner examinations should be carried on, I shall dismiss it now, and give my readers a few observations on the subject of this book.

Coining hath been long a growing evil, and experience teacheth, that the severity of the laws have not prevented the pursuit thereof, notwithstanding the frequent examples made inferrorem persons, who perhaps would not commit other crimes, engage therein; such

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was Tilley's character before he was apprehended, and indeed men of a bad character could not long pursue the iniquitous trade; one great cause of this dangerous offence being still pursued and followed, is the escape of accomplices, and the admitting such as evidences, which often turn out like Lightowler, the principal and ablest artist, and who never refrain, but continue the practice and instruct others therein: no one should have a pardon but on condition of being banished to the Indies for life. I have given the laws offenders of this sort are liable to; that they may be attended to, is the hearty wishes of

The EDITOR.



An Abstract of the Laws concerning Clipping, Counterfeiting, and Coining of Money.

CLIPPING was not counterfeiting within the meaning of the Stat. 25th Ed. III. but it was declared to be high treason by a subsequent Stat. viz. 3d H. V. and so the law stood till 1st Mary, and then that act was repealed; but afterwards, by 5th Eliz. clipping, washing, rounding or filing the proper money of this realm (for lucre sake) or of foreign money made current here, was made high treason.

Afterwards by the 18th Eliz. impairing, falsifying, or making light our coin, or foreign money made current here (for lucre sake) was made treason. These are crimes of the same nature with clipping, but they differ in the punishment; for these later offences work no corruption of blood.

But now a new law is made to prevent the clipping, diminishing, or impairing the coin of this realm.

That the buyer or seller of clippings or filings, or any person who shall knowingly have them in his possession, shall not only forfeit the same, but likewise one hundred pounds, one moiety to the king, and the other to the informer; and shall also be burnt in the right cheek with the letter R, and be committed till he pay the fine.

And in order to discover such persons, it is by the same statute enacted, that two justices in any county, and one or more wardens of the company of Goldsmiths, with two or more of their assistants, if within the weekly bills, &c. may enter the house of any suspected person; and if resisted, may with the assistance of a constable break it open, and seize the bullion, and the person, and examine him or her upon oath, viz. whether it was lawful silver, and whether the same was not the current coin of this realm, or the clippings thereof before it was melted; and if it is not proved by oath, as aforesaid, or by the oath of a credible witness, that it is lawful silver, and that the same was not clippings before it was melted, then the

two justices may commit the person, and secure the bullion, and compel the witnesses to enter into a recognizance to prosecute; and if the person upon his trial on an indictment for melting the current coin, &c. shall not prove by the oath of one witness, that it was lawful silver, and that it was not the current coin, &c. nor clippings thereof before it was melted, he must be found guilty, and be committed without bail for six months.

He that apprehends and prosecutes such offender to conviction, shall receive of the sheriff forty pounds within a month after conviction, producing the judge's certificate.

Casting ingots of silver, or stamping any marks to imitate Spanish bars, penalty five hundred pounds, and forfeiture of the silver so cast.

By another statute made 8th and 9th Will. they who make puncheons or dyes knowingly, or mending, beginning, or proceeding to make them, or assisting therein, or any edging-tool, or coining-press, or cutting engine, or having in their possession any such puncheon without any lawful authority, shall be guilty of high treason.

So likewise any persons conveying out of the mint any puncheon, dye, &c. and persons knowingly concealing the same, shall be guilty of high treason.

The like penalty on persons making the edges of any counterfeit coin, and likewise on those who colour or gild any coin in resemblance of the current coin, or round blanks of base metal, or gilding silver blanks fit to be coined.

And if any puncheon or dye is found in the possession of any person not employed in the mint, it may be seized, and produced in evidence against such person, and then it shall be broke into pieces; and so shall any counterfeit money produced in evidence: And this must be done in open court, or in the presence of some justice of the peace, and then delivered to whom of right it doth belong.

Persons blanching copper for sale, or mixing blanch'd copper with silver, or buying or selling, or offering to sale, any maleable mixture of metals, which shall be heavier than silver, and look, and touch, and wear like gold; or he who shall take, pay, or put off
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counterfeited mill'd money, or any mill'd money unlawfully diminished, and not cut in pieces, for less than its denomination doth *imply* impart; every such person shall be guilty of felony.

This act was at first but temporary, but being found by experience to be very useful, therefore it was by the statute of 7th Anne, made perpetual.

And whereas the prosecution upon that act was to be within three months after the offence, that time was enlarged by this subsequent statute, as to any prosecution for making or mending, or beginning or proceeding to make or mend any coining tool or instrument therein prohibited, or by making money round the edges with letters; for in all these cases, the prosecution may be at any time within six months after the offence committed.

By an act 9th and 10th W. it was made lawful for any person to cut or break in pieces any silver money tendered in payment which shall be diminished, or which by the impression, colour, or weight, shall be suspected to be counterfeited, and the person tendering the same, shall be at the loss; but if it is full weight and good money, then the person breaking it, shall receive it at the rate, for which it was coined.

Any dispute arising, whether the piece cut is counterfeited, if in a city or town corporate, shall be determined by the chief magistrate; if in the country, then by the next justice of the peace, who may administer an oath as he shall see it convenient.

The teller and clerks of the Exchequer, and the general receivers of every branch of the revenue and taxes, must cut every counterfeit piece that shall be tendered in payment; and the better to discover the same, shall weigh in whole sums or otherwise, all silver money by them received.

This was treason by the common law; and 'tis held, that washing, filing, diminishing or felling, &c. for lucre sake, is counterfeiting within the meaning of the statute of 5th Eliz. and the counsellors, consenters and aiders within the statute of 18th Eliz.

Forging our coin without uttering it, is treason; and foreign coin made current, is misprison of treason.

Imparting

Importing, or bringing counterfeit foreign coin knowingly, it is treason, by the statute 25th Ed. III. But then it must be brought from a foreign nation, not under the ^{denomination} denominations of England, and it must be in likeness of our money, and the importer must know it to be counterfeit, and must make payment thereof.

One witness is sufficient to convict the offender.

Uttering false money, knowing it to be so, is not high treason, but a great misdemeanor, and finable.

But if he who utters it doth know who coined it, or if he supplied the coiner with coining tools, or with silver, and money is coined accordingly; in either of these cases, he who utters it, is guilty of high treason, because he is aiding and assisting to the coining.

By later STATUTES.

If any person shall wash, gild or colour, either lawful or counterfeit silver coin, in order to have the resemblance of a guinea or half guinea, or shall by colouring or washing or any other means, so as to make half-pennys, or farthings, to have the resemblance of a sixpence or shilling, both principal and accomplices being assistants therein, will be guilty of high treason.

The putting off or tendering in payment, any counterfeit money, knowing it to be such, the punishment for the first offence, six months imprisonment; second, two years, and sureties for good behaviour for the like terms; and the third, felony without clergy; and justices of the general quarter sessions, may hear and determine these offences.

An accomplice discovering two or more offenders, shall have his pardon: Reward on conviction of offenders, forty pounds.

Counterfeiting halfpence and farthings imprisonment, and sureties for six months: Reward on conviction, ten pounds.

In the time of Hen. I. coiners were punished with loss of their eyes, or cutting off their private members.

In time of Hen. V. It was ordained, that no gold should be offered in payment unless it were weighed; and scales and weights were then appointed.

INTRODUCTION.

Being the History and Anecdotes of T.—L.—

THOMAS Lightoler was born in the township of Walton Ladale, near Preston in Lancashire, and bred a carpenter; every other art he became master of, he acquired by his own natural abilities, and was one of the most extraordinary mechanical genius that ever appeared in this kingdom at that period: He was apprentice to his father, a carpenter, who died and left three sons, Thomas, Timothy, and Henry, and several daughters. The first knowledge I had of them, were from the two elder brothers in and about the year 1750, they being then employed by the late Lord Warwick, in the beautifying the inside of the castle at Warwick; the carved work performed by them, drew the attention of persons of the first rank; but unfortunate for the family, the unhappy turn and disposition of Thomas for that pernicious crime of coining; his unsettled and vicious turn prevented them deriving the great advantages that might have accrued therefrom, advantages that no other persons ever had, in a superior degree, to themselves; which I think it is unnecessary for me to give any farther proofs of them, than what will appear in the following lines.

In the year 1751, he was engaged with a number of persons in the coining trade, at Walsall, Bilston, &c. In the year 1752, G. B. and Co. were deeply concerned with him in coining: G. B. got a very considerable sum both by metal and the profits of coin.

This year I employed Thomas in doing me a piece of carved work, he and his brother having done some very curious finished pieces in the castle at Warwick as aforementioned.

The first account I meet with of Thomas Lightoler, is in the year 1741, when I find he entered into articles with Thomas Price Esq; of Peullergare in the county of Glamorgan, for the erecting and building of a work-house, for working and manufacturing of mineral earth and water, which was to be planned and laid out by him, and

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likewise

likewise to oversee and direct the artificers, labourers, and bricklayers to be therein employed, a sufficient number of whom he was to provide; likewise he was to do his part as a plumber and carpenter: Also that he the said Thomas Lightoler should direct, manufacture, order, dress, and manage the said mineral earth and water, to the best advantage of the said Thomas Price Esq; and the other proprietors of the said work; and farther that he should continue in the working, manufacturing, ordering, and managing the same in a workman-like manner, for the term of forty years; that he should not leave, quit or depart the said work during that time, without the consent of the said Thomas Price Esq; or the other proprietors; and that he should not directly or indirectly undertake, direct, or advise, or manage any other work whatsoever, of the same or like nature with that of Trewidda, in his own name, or for his own use, or in the name, or for the use of any other person or persons whatsoever, during the said term of forty years, and not to disclose or make known to any person or persons the method, secret, or manner of manufacturing, ordering, dressing, or managing the said mineral earth or waters, or any other material or ingredient made use of in the said mineral work, except to the said Thomas Price Esq; and Griffith Price his son.

In consideration of which, he the said Thomas Lightoler was to receive the sum of eighty pounds, during the said term of forty years, by quarterly payments, or one guinea per week, the remains to be settled and paid quarterly, and to have a building erected as a dwelling for the said Thomas Lightoler and his family to dwell in; and grass for a cow and horse, also coal and candle; at any time and within the space of three years, he should be admitted to advance a sum not exceeding two hundred pounds, as a subscriber towards the carrying on the said works.

This appears to have been a very advantageous bargain, and might have been fortunate for him, if he had possessed the least grain of honesty or honour, to have performed his undertaking. In the year 1744, he was in Cardiff goal for coining. See C. Hackshaw's letter, dated Oct. 29, 1744; but by what means he escaped I cannot

not inform my readers, but refer them to all the information I can give them. See C. Hackshaw's letter, May the 6th, 1745. In the year ——— I found propofals for an agreement for the making of alum. See the account. In the year ——— another propofal of a plan for the making of files. See the plan itself, and letters and propofals to Mr. Wood of Worcester, and likewise to Alcock and Kempson of Birmingham, Jan. 9th 1752. In Sept. 1752, I again find him purchasing tools for the coining business, particularly a nest of crucibles of James Moore. In the December following, an order for counterfeit money from James Waldram, cheesemonger, London. In 1753, I found an order from Dumbleton of Banbury, and letters wrote in ambiguous terms from one John Greenwood, and a letter dated Alcester, Feb. 8th, 1753, from his brother Henry, who had left him on account of his dangerous proceedings; in which letter he tells him, that there was a bill found against him, as he was informed, for high treason, and he believed it to be true. In July 1753, Tilley invites him to Coventry, and acquaints him of a house that was fit for his purpose. In Sept. following, he agrees with Brown the tenant, for all the tools, &c. and the lease of the house. Brown was suspected to have carried on the trade of coining. Amongst other letters in the year 1754, was one from Jean Healey of Leyland, with an order for dyes, the wife of one of them who were executed at Lancaster. A letter from Frizo, with an order for Pinchbeck guineas, and white metal crowns, dated October 1st, 1755. During the years 54 and 55, it appears the coining business engrossed his attention greatly, though at this time called himself box maker, carver and engraver, which several trades he well understood: As he seldom continued long in one business, ever restless and unsettled, not owing to the frequent discoveries of his treasonable practices only, but the continual debauch'd course of life he lived in, and the continual expence of bastardy, which prevented his proper attendance upon his employers at Birmingham, as appears from a number of letters which I have not given the public. There was not one person who had any concern with him but were sufferers; the Blackwell's, who were endeavouring to draw him to
London

London, and article for a house, were considerable sufferers. In January 1755, he was in the Isle of Man, his brother-in-law was with him; they had been to dispose of base coin, for which they were taken up, but made their escape in getting off to sea, were fired upon, and his brother died of a wound he received in his back. See his letter dated Feb. 4th, 1755. Soon after this he fell into company with the family of Healey's, whom he engaged to teach the art of coining, provided them tools, &c. for that purpose. For farther particulars, see Mr. Chamberlayn's information. Healeys were convicted and executed at the same time Lightholer were indicted, and a bill found against him. After this happened during the winter 1755, he was in treaty with the Blackwell's for a house and shop in London, but from letters during that period, it appears he was, from knowing the bill was found against him at Lancaster, under continual apprehensions, absented himself from his house in Coventry. And it was about the beginning of the year 1756, that Tilley and Lee put in force the bill of sale against him, by which means he was put out of his dwelling, and took lodgings, where he was taken, and apprehended afterwards by me, the beginning of May following.

In the beginning of May, in the year 1756, an information was brought to me, signed by Lord Chief Justice Ryder, with a letter of request, that I would use my endeavours to apprehend Thomas Lightoler, against whom the grand jury at Lancaster had found a bill for coining, together with two persons of the name of Healey at Layland in that county.

Here follows the Letters found upon him.

DEAR THOMAS,

Dated Oct. 29, 1744.

I Received yours, dated the 16th of this instant, which brings me very sorrowful news; but I hope to God you are not guilty of what you are imprisoned for; and hope by this time you have got bail, in that you say you expect every day; as for the man you mention which swore against you, I've made what enquiry I can of the time, but can't hear of any such man living in Burmley, and if he told you he ever was at our house, it was a great story, for I never heard of that name before, but I shall enquire farther about it, but as for my part, I don't believe there is any such man. I need not tell you what a sickness I have had, you having trouble enough already, besides I suppose your mother may have acquainted you, for I desired her in a letter so to do; but my illness was nothing of grief in comparison with this. Oh! to think of you being in prison, and in danger of losing your life, almost strikes me dead; I wish you had never returned to Swanzey, then perhaps you had mis'd this misfortune; but 'tis in vain to wish for things past: When you write again, pray let me know when the assizes will be held, and whether you have any hopes of being brought off, for I'm in pain altogether about you, and if I can be a friend in any thing, it shall not be wanting, so I remain your sorrowful friend,

CATH. HAWKSHAW.

Pray write again as soon as you please, and if there be danger, write thus, That you intend to go to London, or some other remote place before you come to Lancashire; if there be no danger write, That you think of coming to Lancashire before long; so if it be broken open, no one will know the meaning: I don't know whether I can come home or not by reason of bad health, but you may let me know, if you think proper, how the road lies, for if I come it will be on foot, and let me know what answer you

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have

have got from Sir Henry Houghton and your mother ; so wishing you all health, and prosperity in the affair, I remain your sorrowful
C. H.

I believe yours was broke open as you had sealed it twice, the wax was sealed with a portabello; pray when you write again seal with wafer.

To
Mr. Thomas Lightowler,
to be left at Mr. Thomas William's
in Cardiff, Glamorganshire,
by the cross Post, turn at
Gloucester.

DEAR THOMAS,

Sholey, March 1, 1744--5.

ACCORDING to my promise, I've sent you three guineas by the hand of your brother, who I hope you have seen before this, your mother four, but what it may have cost in coming to you I cannot tell ; I would have sent mine by bill, but could get none for so small a sum ; but I trust to providence it will come safe to your hands, for they set off from Walton on Monday last, which was the 25th of last instant, hoping to see you in a few weeks time ; but dear Thomas, be careful in laying it out, for I borrowed part of mine, and write me a speedy answer that I may hear how you go on, for I'm in fear altogether lest it should be worse than what you have told me, so pray write me the truth ; and if you should suffer I'm afraid I cannot live, and I greatly fear it: Pray pardon bad writing and me, if I have any way done you wrong, but I have hopes not, it being far from my heart doing wrong to any one ; so must conclude, your sorrowful friend, with prayers for your pardon.

C. HAWKSHAW.

I'm sorry I could not be acquainted with what you and your mother have had in hand, I think I had been the fittest : Pardon
my

my last, for I forgot to date it, and don't forget to write; from your faithful and sorrowful

C. HAWKSHAW.

To
Mr. Thomas Lightowler, to be left at
Mr. William's in Cardiff, South Wales
Glamorganshire.
By the Cross Post, turn at Gloucester.

DEAR CHLD,

I This minute received yours, with a deal of thankfulness to hear of Timothy's safe arrival to you; I hope it will be some comfort to have him with you, and I pray God Almighty direct every one that is concerned for you, to act for the best every way: I assure you the report William Chaff raised of me as to marriage, is as false as possible; I don't deny but there might be such a thing spoke of, but if the person had been ever so agreeable, I should be very far from thinking of such a thing whilst you are in that place, it has not been so little grief to me, I assure you, whatever false reports you may hear; I think you have suffered too much by one rogue than to have credited another's lies of your poor mother; the rogue reports he is for buying one of the houses, I beg you will never write to him of any business whatsoever whilst I am alive: Sir Harry says Mr. Harding was with him, to ask what these poor houses are worth that he might let you have some money on them, if your life be spared; he said he durst not meddle before the assizes: But my dear child, had you wrote home that you had wanted more money, you should have had it if I had been obliged to have sold my clothes; but you know you owe Harding money already, that he would be very glad to get the writings into his hands: I was obliged to send to my uncle for a copy of your father's will before I could have that small sum to send you: The taxes are so great and repairs so many, that what I must do till it gets cleared, I cannot tell, but I hope my good God will direct me for the best; but my fears
are

are so great about you, that it causes other things to be laid aside at present ; but I hope, for God Almighty's sake, that you will let me know how matters go on as soon as possible : I would gladly have come to you if you had signed the writing ; I should have been with you by this post, but if it go well with you, I shall be better where I am. I am surprised Timothy should tell you such a grand lie about me lending Humphry Harrison books, I solemnly declare I never lent him a book in my life, but I think I am born to be belied ; one I lent Robert, the book your father had of Sharpes, and no other I had to lend but the book about the roads ; I have not so much as a prayer book of my own : I greatly fear things were opened at Mr. ——— I bid Timothy to ask you about the saucepan, there are many things wanting but I cannot tell what till I have got the parcel from Mrs. Price's, but the saucepan I can safely swear I saw you put in very well filled with things to keep it from dangering, the cover of it is come and but one bed curtain ; at present you have other things to mind, but please God you get clear, which shall be my prayer night and day, I shall write more about them : Pray my son Timothy, and desire him to be cautious (this line of the letter was tore off)

Since he promised to send me his old coat to have made Harry one against Easter, but he has not : I suppose you have received a letter from me, you may know the hand, he thought I should not write as he had a mind without he wrote himself. I have this hour sent Alice to cousin Catty with my letter ; we have had such fears of Timmy being lost in some snow-drift, expecting to have heard of him this three posts : The children all desire to be affectionately remembered to you both, I am dear child, your affectionate,

very much afflicted mother,

Pray don't fail writing. March 19.

M. LIGHTOWLLER.

To

Mr. Thomas Lightowler,

At Mr. Thomas William's

In Cardiff, South Wales,

Glamorganshire.

The

The following are part of two letters from M. Lightowler to her son Thomas Lightowler, directed to him at Mr. Thomas Williams's in Cardiff, Glamorganshire, the beginning and the end of which two letters were torn off.

" I suppose the chief reason you would not sign, was because you heard that I was going to be married to Humphry Harrison, I assure you there is nothing in it, but if you suspect it, I would desire I may have my thirds, and that you would settle the rest of the rents to be received by any friend you can trust, to go towards the bringing up of your two little sisters and little brother, or else they must be cast upon the town of Walton, for I can do nothing for them out of my thirds, which will be very small when taxes and repairs are deducted; you know it was your dear father's dying words and desire to you, that the tenement should go towards the bringing up of my children, and I hope you will come over."

" Hoping that if it please God to grant you liberty, you will endeavour to improve your mispent time, and whilst you are in that dismal place, that you may be crucified to the world as well as sequestered from it, that as you are shut out from its conversation, you may in heart and mind ascend and dwell above, and endeavour to have"——

DEAR THOMAS,

Sholey, May 6, 1745.

I Received yours about a week since with great joy, to hear you are at liberty, hoping for the time to come you will be more careful in chusing your company, and laying out your money; I was very sorry to hear how you return'd home, both without money and clothes, but never would name it because of the goal you have been in, but hope now you'll take care to redeem them as soon as possible, if ever you think to see me, or that I should perform what you request, for you know that I can't bear to think of debt, neither can I think of you keeping with such as with David Harris, for to keep company with such (as I am informed) he and the Watch-

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maker

maker is, are very likely to bring you into trouble again, so I hope you'll avoid this for your own good; perhaps you may think I take too much liberty in speaking so plain, but 'tis as I wish you well, for if I did not respect you and wish you as well as myself, I should never have taken up my time in writing to you so often, nor been at the expence of loosing yours, so if there be any breach of friendship, 'twill be owing to yourself; you desired to know whether my parents had heard of your confinement, to which I answer, that it was as much talked on as if it had been in our own neighbourhood, but as many as have mentioned it to me, I have utterly denied having any knowledge of it, and I believe our folks partly believe it to be untrue; however, it has made a great uneasiness, which I believe will hinder me from coming to Wiggan this May, else perhaps might have seen you: I hope your brother is in good health as I am at present, so conclude, your faithful whilst ——— C.——

I saw Mr. Horrobin to-day, he told me he heard you was hang'd and pretended great sorrow, but I soon resolved him, so he desired to be remembered to you. Dear Thomas, let me have a particular account how every thing is with you as soon as you can, and how you are in health; my service to your brother, except the same yourself, from your

For

C. HAWKSHAW.

Mr. Thomas Lightowler,
In Cardiff, South Wales,
Glamorganshire.
by the cross Post, turn at
Gloucester.

DEAR THOMAS,

I Beg pardon for not answering yours before now, but I'd thought to have sent what I mentioned, before this time; for I was at Walton thinking to have left it with your mother, but Mool with news contrary to my expectation was the reason I deferred it, but hope in a weeks time to go to Preston, and if I can send it, I will;
if

if not, I'll venture to leave it with your mother; if I shall undertake the trouble she'll hardly be so ungrateful as to refuse sending it to you: I am very sorry to hear your mother has no more love for you, than to desire you to sign away your right at Walton for four or five guineas, under pretence that she can no other way assist you, and that you should have no more regard for yourself, than to bring yourself under such straits as to give your birth-right, as it were, for a mess of pottage; but if there be no other way of saving your life, I've nothing more to say, for all that a man has will he give for that; but above all things, have a care of the man in prison with you, for he'll hang you before he'll suffer himself, and I hear he is kept in prison for that purpose; if the villain comes again, and his oath be punctual against you, if you cannot prove that he does it out of spite, I'm afraid it will go hard with you, but if any one can witness that he says he'll be your enemy, and that he'll swear that right or wrong, 'twill weaken his oath: I suppose you have had better advice than I can give you, but none that wishes you so well, so God be with you and send you safe into Lancashire again, from
Your friend,

HAWKSHAW.

I need not tell you that your mother is for being married again, I suppose your uncle Charles has made you acquainted with that as well as other things; pray don't say any thing that I mentioned her, let her marry who she will tis nothing to me: Two of your last letters were post free.

To

Mr. Thomas Lightowler,
at Mr. Tho. William's in Cardiff,
South Wales, Glamorganshire.
By the Cross Post, turn at Gloucester.

S I R,

Darlistone, Sept. 12, 1751.

I Desire that you will let me know when you will come and bring the remainder part of the things, but I am much surpris'd that you should have so bad opinion of me, as to any ways think I want
to

to fling you; I left your wife word which way I would do: I will pay you your share at twice when you come over, and will give you a note of hand for the rest, otherwise will buy it out and out.

From yours,

J O S. J O N E S.

P. S. You come over with it; but pray let that man know nothing about it, but let him know that you and I have parted and cannot agree: Pray let me have an answer by the bearer, I have got all things ready.

For

Mr. Tho. Lightowler,
near the New Chapel,
Birmingham.

WE do hereby acknowledge, that if Thomas Lightowler will settle to his business in completing the file engines which he has been employ'd about some time past by us: And also use all reasonable diligence in forwarding the said work, and in all other respects behave himself as a reasonable man would do, we promise, that as soon as a patent shall be granted and assigned as by agreement, that we will use all means in our power to forward the said work, and also execute articles of partnership with him agreeable to the tenor of the articles now subsisting between us, and will also endeavour to the utmost of our power, to settle all his affairs with all his creditors in such manner, as will give any reasonable man satisfaction.

ALCOCK and KEMPSON.
9th Jan. 1752.

And further,

If the said Thomas Lightowler should at any time propose any scheme to us which there's a strong probability will be for the mutual advantage of us, we will at any time undertake to manage his part of the direction of the file engines till such time as a model can be made to verify the use of such scheme, and in case it should succeed

need, we will immediately use all means in our power to carry it into execution, on the same terms as our present agreement is, concerning the file engine; but we think it will be very imprudent to begin any new scheme before this present is compleated, and so on if hereafter we should begin another.

Birmingham, 21 Nov. 1752.

S I R,

THIS day I received a twenty pound bank note, so don't fail him sending them pack'd up in one or two baskets in bags well strawed, directed to be left at John Legas, porter, and send a direction to put on here in a letter.

Don't fail.

G. B.

To

Mr. Tho. Lightowler,
In Walsall.

London, Dec. 6, 1752.

S I R,

YESTERDAY I saw a sample of your goods, which my brother Benjamin Pinley brought up to town, and I like them very well; so that if you'll get me five pounds ready as soon as possible, and pitch upon a wagoner to bring them, I'll send the money down direct; let them be as good as those I have seen, they came from Thomas Pinley, and Benjamin tells me he has them from L. has fifteen for a shilling: I should be glad of an answer by the return of the post, and then I shall have time to send the money down. Direct for me as this, For James Waldron, cheesemonger, in Kent Street, London.

Birmingham, 17th Jan. 1753.

S I R,

TO your desire I got metal ready, and now you never come for it; and I sent a parcel of metal to Mr. Jos. Jones, and this day he was here, and says he never ordered any: I don't think you use me as I do you; in the holidays you sent word, that you would

F

send

send twenty pounds by your man, and it all amounts to no more than talk. I desire to hear from you to-morrow, I am

Your humble Servant,

G E O. B I R C H.

To
Mr. Tho. Lightowler,
In Walfall.

Bring an answer.

Ettingfal, April 30, 1753.

Mr. LIGHTOULDER,

WE expected to have seen you before this, as the affair requires expedition; had you sent it last week, you might have had most of your money by this week, and we propose giving you some part at delivery, and a note of hand for the remainder at a short date; which, with other privileges, will answer your end better than keeping it idle, and the sooner things are compleated, the better for us all; if you think proper to give us a final answer, it will oblige your friends and servants,

To

F. T. and R. B.

Mr. Tho. Lightoulder,
near the Windmill,
at Walfall.

Coventry, July 22, 1753.

SIR,

THIS is to acquaint you, that Mr. Brown goes out of his house at Michaelmas; so if you intend to come, pray come in a weeks time to take it, otherwise it will be taken, for it is a very compleat house, and Mr. Brown says, he should be glad if you come, for he desires to sell most of his work-tools, and as they are standing, they will be useful for you, he thinketh, and he will sell them at a reasonable rate. From your ever well wisher,

JONATHAN TILLEY.

Bir-

Birmingham, Dec. 22, 1753.

SIR,

I Desire you will send me what money you can to-morrow, I being very short against Christmas, your compliance will oblige

Your humble servant,

GEO. BIRCH.

Send an answer, I am forwarding a parcel of metal.

To

Mr. Tho. Lightoulder,
In Walfall.

July 15th, 1754. Stone.

SIR,

NOT receiving any order when the goods would be in readiness which I ordered when I saw you at Stone, which you promised at that time should be ready in a fortnight; I desire you will get them ready against Monday the 22d of July: I desire you will have them in readiness according to my order. Sir, pray fail not, because you know it is a long way to go about trifles, your sincere friends, JOHN NICHOLLS and JOSHUA,

Pendlenton, Stone, Staffordshire.

If you send a letter, direct for John Nicholls, Baker, in Mill Lane, Stone, Staffordshire: When I come, if I like the goods, will give orders for quantities. I have a brother in the city of Dublin salefman in pots.

To

Mr. Tho. Lightoulder, Carver,
on St. John's Bridge, at
Coventry.

London, 8ber. 9, 1754.

SIR,

I Think you have received my letter I sent you yesterday was seven-night; I shall be very glad to receive an answer of it by the return of the post, or by letting me know you'll come yourself;

self; I should be very glad to speak with you, according some patterns, and to see the patterns you promise me. I am

Sir,

My direction.

Your humble servant,

To

Mr. Jas. Anth. Martin,
at the 7 Stars, Rosemary Lane,
London.

GASPART FRISAW.

Liverpool, Feb. 4, 1755.

DEAR PEGGY,

I Hope you will excuse my not writing before this, my reason I shall let you know when I come home, neither had I any opportunity; I landed here yesterday, I was shipwrecked last Thursday noon, and only myself and four more were saved; the vessel struck upon Douglas head, and in two minutes went to the bottom: I am well, not any ways hurt, only the loss of my clothes: I intend, God willing, to be at home the beginning of next week. I have an account of brother Gill's death, he left this place in perfect health, as I am inform'd by Mr. Parker. I beg keep good spirits all will be well; my little ones and you I long to see: My kind respects to sister, Mr. and Mrs. Tilley, and all friends, so remain much concern'd for brother Gill's exit, and am your ever constant husband, tho' absent,

THO. LIGHTOWLLER.

DEAR AUNT,

Birmingham, March 21, 1755.

MY mother received yours, and would have answered it sooner but had not opportunity, by reason she has had so much business under hand concerning her affairs; she has had file cutters, and jobbing-smiths, and appraisers of household goods, and one to settle her books, and one body or other ever since Saturday last, so that she has not had a minutes time to herself; it has been such fatiguing work for her, she has hardly been able to stand upon her legs, but now she is in hopes the worst is over: She was very sorry you
laid

laid it so much to heart about my uncle not coming over to see you, but she has sent for him to come over again, and expects him here next week, and then she is in hopes he will come over to you, and order things more to your satisfaction. Mother received a letter from Liverpool last Monday, from a gentleman who informed her, that my uncle Lightowler was come over from the Isle, and was setting out to come home, but he was arrested by some people from the Isle, who has laid him in Liverpool goal, for a debt of ten pounds that he has contracted; what will become of him she does not know: The mare that my uncle rode upon never came to hand till Monday last, and mother was obliged to send to Liverpool to redeem the mare before she could have her, and it cost her three pounds ten shillings, which is all from

Your ever loving nephew

N. B. My mother desires her
love to you, and should be glad
of your immediate answer, to
know how you are.

THO. GILL.

To

Mrs. Margaret Lightowler,
near the Bull's head, in Bishop
Street, Coventry.

WHEREAS there is an agreement made between Thomas Lightowler, Simon Ambrose, and Thomas Blackwell, and Thomas Siddall; to enter into equal co-partnership in engines of various sorts, such as the said Thomas Lightowler and Thomas Siddall may be capable of making, or directing to be made; and that all the said co-partners shall have an equal profit arising from the same, whereof this note or writing, is designed and meant for the binding of the several parties: In witness hereof, we each of us have put our hands this 21st day of August, 1755.

Simon Blackwell

Ambrose Blackwell.

Thomas Blackwell.

Thomas Siddall his X mark.

G

Wal-

Mr. LIGHTOWLLER

Walsall, Sept. 29, 1755.

S I R,

I Would have wrote to you before, but I expected you over at the wake, I considered upon what you and I consulted upon at Wednesbury, and should be very glad to go on with it; there is a few objections which I doubt will be very difficult, first, if the dyes should crack or be any ways deficient, and you should be out on business, then the work must stand and disoblige masters: I should be very glad if you lived within six miles of town, or if I could have any correspondent of yours at Birmingham, to help in case of necessity: I should be very glad to see you at Walsall, for our people thinks it's a very intricate thing for a person to manage that's unacquainted with it; I am informed it will cost near twenty pounds. Please to send an account what things will be wanting, and the charge; so no more at present, but my complements to all friends. I am

Yours to command,

GEO. HILL.

P. S. Mr. Blackham was with me a day or two ago, about what you know of; you desired me to send you word of Mr. Prophet, Mr. Warden saw him by Matt. Ross that evening as you went from there, and said he knew nothing of you being in town.

N. B. There has been a great disturbance at Birmingham concerning bad gold; it's Portugal coin, the Soliciter has been down from the mint, and as by report, found several pieces upon a Chapman which bears a very bad character: I hope you won't take it ill at me sending you this, but some people please to joke with me that they think it's you that's concerned, but by sufficient circumstances, I hear it is one at Birmingham.

To

Mr. Tho. Lightowler
opposite the Pack-horse
on St. John's Bridge,
Coventry, Warwickshire.

London,

London, Oct. 2, 1755.

S I R,

YOURS received but to no satisfaction to any affairs in hand; what I write now concerning the house, and how you would have the shop built to your mind, I have met the gentleman so many times, whilst I am ashamed of setting one time and another for it to be fixed, and unless you give me a punctual answer by Monday's post, I must lose twenty pounds upon a forfeit, so excuse haste, I depend upon your answer then, and am

Sir, your humble servant,

There is no orders as you spoke of,
whom ever is in the fault.

SIMON BLACKWELL,

P. S. Pray don't fail your answer at the return of post, for the penalty which I cannot get off. My love to brother, and I received his order, which will send by Saturday's wagon, please God.

To

Mr. Tho. Lightowler,
on St. John's Bridge,
Coventry.

S I R,

WE have sent to you several times, in order for an instrument or two by way of essay; and as to the dyes you may send a proper thin plate to stamp them on, but we request of you to send one two or three, &c. of instruments without dyes, in order to see what perfection it can be brought to, for we want to have a quantity made of the sort we mentioned. One or two without the stamp of the dye will make no odds, we were in hopes of having some hundreds from you before now, for it has hindered us greatly in not advertising, and we now wait to see what we can say to the public with relation to this improvement; therefore we earnestly beg you would as speedy as possible, send as above, and then you may expect another order for a quantity: We have promised some time ago to our correspondents in London, &c. &c. to help them to
some

some of them in a very small time, therefore it is all this while lost time, from

Your sincere and true friend,

To
Mr. Lightowler,
at Coventry.

J. HULLS and Company.

Douglas, Jan. 12, 1755.

I Promise to pay upon demand, to Mr. James Bourne of Liverpool, for my passage from hence there, the sum of three pounds three shillings, according to contract.

Witness my hand, THOMAS LIGHTOWLLER.

Mr. LIGHTOWLLER,
S I R,

I Wrote to you last week and expected an answer, mother and I are agreeable to get up a stamp as soon as possible: I intend to go to Birmingham next week, if business suits, to see a little of them, and should be very glad of your advice in a stamp; if you will be pleased to send me account what things will be wanting to complete a good stamp, and the charge separate, in so doing you'll greatly oblige

Your humble servant,

P. S. Please to send an answer
per return of post.

G E O. H I L L.

To
Mr. Lightowler at Mr. Reeves's,
Breeches-maker, St. John's Bridge.
Coventry.

April 15, 1755.

Most worthy Mr. LIGHTOWLLER,

THIS with my love and service to you, and also my loving and charming master. Honourable and loving master, this is to let you know concerning your affairs with Birmingham, and by these lines to let you know, that D—— was sent for to the workhouse

house on Monday morning, and a warrant was delivered to him to serve you for the child's charges, and at the delivery of the warrant to him, Abraham Spooner and Michael Alcock promised him a crown for the taking of you, and Monday he hath been on the search every where for to find you, and Ned Smith's wife has been at the workhouse at the same time, for her pay for the child; she came to me yesterday and told me the same, and Wooldridge swore at the old George on Monday night, if you came to Birmingham by night or by day he would have you, or the Devil should have him. You may use your own discretion, but would have you be upon your guard, for if you should come to town unexpected, you would find my words no otherways than truth.

Concerning the other errand, I went on Monday to see for the fellow, but was gone home sick of the fever, but this day I met with a young man as hath been in the town a great while, a jobbing-smith, a man of a very good reputation, and counted a very ingenious good workman, and for the sake of improvement, would be willing to contract for some time, I gave him all the satisfaction I could, and if you have a mind, I desire you would send a letter to Baggs, where you would meet him, and when your will shall be fulfilled as far as power goeth, your ever well wisher.

To
 Mr. Lightowler,
 Box-maker and Engine Turner,
 in Coventry. These

DAVID DOWWELL.

S I R,

I Hope your good disposition towards public justice will enable you to take the cause in hand, which I suppose my spouse by this time has given you an account of, but perhaps in not so clear a light as is requisite on such occasions; there was a bill of sale given to Jonathan Tilly one year three quarters ago, or upwards; Lee being only a witness to the signing of it, and no other persons present at that time (I hope no affront to mention, that bills of sale ought to be immediately executed within a limited time;) in the next

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place

place they turn'd a woman and both my children into the street by compulsion, which were in possession; I took the house of Mr. Kendrick, not of Lee or Tilley, and I further observe, that every thing in the inventory when the bill was given, was upon the premises when they entered, and a considerable quantity of other goods and working utensils, bought by me since that time (proper exceptions in the bill of sale according to form;) there is some effects of other persons, all which I find upon oath made, they are accountable for; and part of my wife's wearing apparel they likewise illegally detain, notwithstanding they are excepted in the bill of sale: I cannot conceive what business Lee had there at all, but this is not material, I have ordered my wife to give you your fee, if required: I will either be upon the spot or depute some one to act for me as soon as I can end the affair with the overseers of Packinton; I have both friends and money to push with vigour in this action, which if you please to undertake, shall be paid as required; please to consider how best to ground the action, and give a line to my wife, which she will send to me, and I shall esteem it as a signal favour done to,

Sir, your well wisher,

Birmingham, Jan. 13, 1756.

THO. LIGHTOWLLER.

To

Mr. Hewitt, Attorney at Law,
Coventry.



T H E
P R O C E E D I N G S, &c.

O F T H E
A U T H O R,

A G A I N S T
L I G H T O W L L E R, T I L L E Y, L E E,
and their A C C O M P L I C E S,

In the Y E A R 1756.

B O O K the S E C O N D.

B I R M I N G H A M;

Printed for the A U T H O R, by R. M A R T I N, of whom they may be had: Also of
P E A R S O N and R O L L A S O N, and S W I N N E Y and E V A T S, in B I R M I N G H A M ; and of the
Author A L D E R M A N H E W I T T, in C O V E N T R Y : Also of the Printers of Country News-
Papers and Booksellers.

THE

PROCEEDINGS &c.

OF THE

AUTHOR.

AGAINST

WILLIAM TILLET, LEE,

and their Accomplices,

In the Year 1756.

BOOK the SECOND.

EDWARD W. A. M.

Printed for the AUTHOR by R. Martin, of whom they may be had: Also of
Hasson and Kessell, and Swaine and Evans, in Westminster; and of the
Author's Agent, in Coventry: Also of the Printer of Country News-
Papers and Bookellers.

C O I N I N G.

The P R O C E E D I N G S, &c.

IN the beginning of May, 1756; the following was brought to me, signed by lord chief justice Ryder, with a letter of request that I would use my endeavours to cause Thomas Lightowler to be apprehended, against whom the grand jury had at the then late assizes at Lancaster, found a bill for coining, together with two persons of the names of Healy.

The Information of William Chamberlayne, Solicitor of his Majesty's Mint, taken upon Oath the 27th Day of April, in the Year of our Lord, 1756.

AND first, this informant for himself saith, That a bill of indictment being found at the last summer assizes, held in and for the county palatine of Lancaster, against Abraham Healy the elder, Abraham Healy the younger, and Thomas Lightowler, all late of the parish of Layland in the county of Lancaster, labourers; for counterfeiting the current coin of this kingdom: They, the said Abraham Healy the elder, and Abraham Healy the younger, were afterwards apprehended, and at the last assizes held in, and for the county aforesaid, were tried on the said indictment, and both convicted. And this informant saith, he attended the trial of the said Healys as solicitor on behalf of the crown, and that it appeared by the evidence given on the said trial, that the said Thomas Lightowler not only coined in the presence of the Healys, but was himself the procurer of the instruments, and the person that taught or instructed the said Healys in the art of counterfeiting the current
I coin

coin of this kingdom. And this informant saith, that from what he heard given in evidence on the abovementioned trial, and from informations he has received, he verily believes the said Thomas Lightowler has counterfeited the current coin of this kingdom. And this informant further saith, that he hath not yet been able to cause the said Thomas Lightowler to be apprehended, but this informant hath received by last Friday's post, a letter from Mr. Wright, attorney at law in Coventry, mentioning that he, the said Thomas Lightowler, had been in Coventry that week, and that he probably was there then, and that if me, the informant, would send a warrant immediately, he did not fear getting him taken.

SWORN at my house in }
 Chancery Lane the day }
 and year first above }
 written, before me }
 D. RYDER. }

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

Upon the receipt of Mr. Chamberlayne's information, accompanied with a letter, I filled up the warrant in readiness, and I directly turned my thoughts on ways and means by which the offender might be secured: I had been closely employed in the putting the act in execution for the raising men for the filling up Colonel Lambton's regiment, which were then quartered at Coventry. Some few months before Lightowler had been taken up by virtue of my warrant, upon a charge of bastardy, and made his escape from the constable, and had left the town; having had his character given me, and the embarrassed state of his circumstances, I found the utmost caution and circumspection necessary to be used in the enquiry after him, and employed a person to find out whether or not he was in town, under a pretence of my wanting him to do some carved work, he having with his brother cut a chimney piece for me some time before: The person employed had a demand upon Lightowler which he had mentioned to me, and from the hopes of my being able to stop his debt, very willingly and thankfully undertook the finding out his lodgings, and if in Coventry, to engage him

him to undertake the work; the same day he informed me Lightowler was in town, and lodged at a public house in the neighbourhood, but where he went during the day he could not find out, but would watch his coming home at night: Being certain that he was in town, I immediately sent to the chief constable, and gave him orders to have ready two or three other officers at the watch-house that night by ten o'clock, waiting my orders to be executed on a minute's notice; the high constable supposed the business was to impress some man I had intelligence of, for a soldier; doubtful of the constable's proceeding, determined to attend them myself, being the most capital crime that had come under my notice; about eleven o'clock I had notice from my neighbour that they had seen Lightowler, and he had undertaken the job, and would wait on me in the morning: I immediately sent for the high constable and attendance, and to prevent the landlord and family's going to bed, I sent for him upon different business; being prepared, I gave a strict charge to the officers to follow me close, and to be ready on instantaneous notice to seize the man I pointed at; upon our arrival at the house, considering all farther ceremony and secrecy unnecessary, I then questioned the landlord whether Lightowler did not lodge at his house, to which he answered, No; I then told him I knew he did, and he was then there in bed; upon which appearing confused, he said he could not tell but he would go and see; to which I reply'd, that he should not go alone, but desired him to shew me the room; upon going up the first stairs he wrapt gently at a door, and was taking me up a second story; considering the wrap a signal and him a traitor, I immediately collared him, kicked up his heels, and sent him backward down stairs, and with my foot against the door forced the lock and bolt; the moment I perceived by the clothes Lightowler was in bed, I looked back for my attendants, not one man in sight; perceiving my danger and the terror I had put the woman in, I address'd her, "Mrs. Lightowler, don't be surprized, this husband of yours can't leave off his tricks, he hath another small child laid to him since he ran from my warrant;" upon which Lightowler burst into laughter, supposing it true, conscious he had deserved

deserved it: Immediately his first fears vanished, and a loaded pistol he had in his hand he replaced under his pillow; I told him out of decency to his wife I could not speak to him there, but he might dress and come down; directly I ran to see after the traitors of constables I had so relied upon, and giving them a severe reprimand, told them Lightowler their prisoner was in the room, and at their peril to bring him to me in the kitchen; as soon as he had got on his clothes, he sent down one of them to request me to return up stairs, but I gave positive orders for him to come to me; when in the kitchen, I told him he must go to my house, as it was cold and no fire; I left the constables to attend him, when in the street, I perceived a stop, and returned back to know the cause; I found Mr. Lightowler buckling his shoes, and tying his garters, I had those stupid fellows to reprimand for their ignorance and folly; his loose shoes, &c. were a security which they were about to suffer him to remove, and I imagine he began to fear I had not told him the real charge; upon his arrival in my office, I ordered him to be searched, and all his monies and papers to be examined; being then a young magistrate, and unexperienced, had never seen any dyes or coining tools; I recollected hearing repeatedly the sound of Lightowler's fixpences, and that he was considered as the greatest mechanical genius of that time, but a man of a base principle, and bad morals, which appears by the letters; and what had put me under the greatest difficulty in my proceedings, the account given me of his wife, being given over by her physicians, and expected every day to be her last, in consequence of a disorder given her by her husband: I did not know what might be the consequence to the poor woman upon his being surprized in bed with her, which I did not expect till I had forced the door and perceived the clothes on the chair; my immediate recollection of his case of bastardy having been under my notice, removed his fears, and protected me from the danger I was in: Having examined the papers and coin found upon him, I found a letter with a piece of foreign coin inclosed, being an order for a quantity of the same, from two brothers named Frizo's, which was to me sufficient evidence of the trade he had

had been carrying on at Coventry, as well as elsewhere. I then acquainted him with the charge I had against him from the solicitor of the mint, and of his accomplices, the two Healys being executed a few days before, as accomplices for the same fact he had been a principal in. I then proceeded to take his examination concerning the charge; he behaved decently, but would mention nothing that related to the business: After having taken down such an account as he was pleased to deliver, with respect to the papers and samples of coin found upon him, about four o'clock on Sunday morning I committed him to goal: On leaving the Inn at the time of his being apprehended, I placed a constable at the room door to prevent any thing being conveyed away until the morning; after taking an hour or two's repose, and as soon as I thought proper and convenient for his wife, in her distress'd situation, for the apartment to be searched; a loaded pistol was found and brought to me, and which one of the constables acknowledged, he knew he always carried about him, though he had silently suffered me to force into his room without the orders I had previously given being observed, that of being closely attended where ever I proceeded by every officer, and without being obliged to call upon them, nay before they brought him down stairs, one of them saw him take the pistol from his pocket and put under his pillow: Lightowler afterwards own'd to myself, that if I had not deceived him by the sudden presence of mind, in telling his wife it was a charge of bastardy, and which he then believed, he had certainly fired upon me, unless I had directly quitted the room: A large parcel of papers were found, part in his wife's room, and part concealed in a house of her brother's, amongst which were the letters I have published, crucibles, a bill of sale to Tilley and Lee, and his correspondent's epistles for many years previous to that period, and which I have published to shew the character of this man, as well as to expose his accomplices and supporters, who though they escaped the laws of their country, had made fortunes by the industry and unhappy abilities of this offender; I must repeat unhappy for himself, and unfortunate for his country, because he has been suffered to escape with impunity

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nity, and carry with him his knowledge and abilities, to the prejudice of this, and to the great advantage of a foreign country.

Upon his commitment I sent an express to the solicitor of the mint, acquainting him of my proceedings and success, with direction to apprehend Frize, but not receiving immediate answer, I was a little surprized. * See letters 13th and 15th May, 1756, and 8th of June I gave the goaler a strict charge to look well to his prisoner, pointed out to him the repeated escapes he had made, his abilities and superior genius beyond every other man, which required the strictest attention to guard against the attempts he would certainly make to break out of prison, as he well knew the desperate situation he was in, without the least probability of escaping public justice.

Having proceeded so far with respect to Lightowler, I judged it proper to examine Tilley respecting the bill of sale, which I had found amongst Lightowler's papers; but at this time, not suspect-

S I R,

* Gough Square, London, 13th of May, 1756.

YOUR letters being wrong directed, did not get to my son's house till last night, when they were both brought together, and immediately after were brought to me in his absence, being in Wiltshire examining a set of coiners lately discovered there. As your letter of the 11th instant mentions guineas and crowns being ordered by Frison, I sent it to the justice, who committed him, in order to have him detained, and not let out on any application whatever. At my son's return, which I hope will be in two or three days, you will have an answer to your letters. I thought fit to let you know the occasion of his not answering your letter, lest you might think yourself neglected. When you have any occasion to write to him again, direct to him in Fetter-lane. I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAYNE.

If you see Mr. Wright, pray be so good as to let him know that my son is from home, and therefore could not answer his letter.

S I R,

London, 15th May, 1756.

UPON my return to town to-day, I met with both your favours, and am much obliged to you for your care: I must beg the favour of you to let Mr. Wright have a copy of that letter about the guineas and half crowns, and two or three more of them most suspicious, in order to lay before council. I should be glad to have the pleasure of meeting you either here or in Coventry, but I am afraid the fund is not sufficient to answer the expence; however, I will consult with my superiors, and you may depend on hearing further. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

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ing him an accomplice, but desirous of finding out what kind of tools and instruments they were he had taken possession of by virtue of the same: I was so cautious of offending that I waited upon him personally, desiring the favour of seeing any part he had taken; he produced files, I told him they were not the sort of tools I wanted to see, that they were such as was used in the coining of money, and which he might ignorantly take into his keeping, that I hoped he would excuse me if I informed him of the consequence of having such tools or instruments found in a man's house or custody, that it was a capital offence, and therefore he would do well to deliver up any such if he had got them by virtue of the bill of sale, not knowing the consequences; he replied, he never had any such, nor knew what kind of tools they were, that Lightowler was a great rogue and he had been a considerable sufferer by him; I took my leave, with an apology for calling upon him on the occasion: In consequence of my intelligence, Friso was apprehended and committed. * See letter 8th of June, 1756. In order for the

SIR,

* London June 8th. 1756.

I Receiv'd your favour of the 6th, with Lightowler's information inclosed. I immediately attended Mr. Justice Fielding, and upon my information that I suspected Henry Lightowler of coining, I got a warrant for apprehending him, and he was taken last night and examin'd, and again this morning; a copy of his information you receive herewith, and I hope it will be sufficient ground for you to issue warrants against such as live in your neighbourhood upon suspicion. Thomas Lightowler cannot be admitted an evidence, his brother Henry shall; I am surprized you can think that you should have the least occasion to complain of my backwardness, when you consider if it had not been for me this set would not have been got at, as I first fixed Lightowler from whom the discoveries have come: I likewise have the pleasure of acquainting you, that by a scheme I laid, I by the last post received an information against more than a dozen in Lancashire and Yorkshire, for the apprehending of whom, I have sent directions this post, and I hope I shall get most of them, as they are the principle makers of that vast quantity of bad ports that have of late been circulated: You will please to let me hear the result of your meeting with Mr. Wyrley. I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

As to Friso it was impossible I could give you notice to attend his examination as he was not re-examined till last Friday.

MIDDLESEX } The Information of Henry Lightowler, taken this eighth day of June, 1756, before
To wit. { me, being one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County.

WHO being upon oath faith, That he knows Jonathan Tilley of the city of Coventry, plumber and glazier; Joseph Lee, in the county of Warwick, weaver; Charles Higgen-
son

the better securing of Lightowler, who was to be moved to Lancaster, there to take his trial; I gave it as my opinion that it would be best to

son of the city of Coventry, baker; and — Dumbleton of Banbury, in the county of Oxford, baker; that sometime in August 1754, he, this informant, being apprentice to his brother Thomas Lightowler of the city of Coventry, snuff box maker, was present in the shop of the said Thomas Lightowler in Coventry aforesaid, and then saw the said Jonathan Tilley flat bars of base metal to the thickness of a shilling, and then with a screw, cut out round blanks to the size of a shilling, and after milling them in the fire, then boiled them to fetch them to a good colour, and with a large screw fly press, standing in the said shop, a pair of dyes, for coining queen Anne's shillings, being first placed therein, coined several of the said round pieces, into pieces resembling shillings of the reign of queen Anne; and having another pair of dyes for king William's shillings, hath frequently by changing the said dyes, coined such round blanks so made, as aforesaid, into pieces resembling shillings of the reign of king William the III. And this informant further saith, that he always looked upon the said Joseph Lee as partner with the said Tilley in the business of coining; he, the said Lee, having frequently brought old silver to be mixt with other metal, in order to be coined; and having received such counterfeit money after it had been coined from the said Tilley, in order to put off the same, and having been present in the shop of the said Thomas Lightowler while the said Thomas Lightowler and Tilley have been coining shillings, looking on and admiring their performance: And this informant further saith, that about the time aforesaid, he hath seen the said Charles Higgenfon turn the fly while the said Jonathan Tilley attended the dyes, and coined several counterfeit shillings: And this informant further saith, that some time in the month of August aforesaid, he, this deponent was sent by the said Tilley to the said — Dumbleton, with some of the said counterfeit shillings, in number twenty four, for which the said Dumbleton was to give this informant one guinea; but this informant received only twenty shillings for the same, by reason the said Dumbleton said, he had no more money, but that there were accounts betwixt him the said Dumbleton, and this informant's brother, and the said Tilley, and he would settle the same the next time he saw them: And this informant further saith, that whilst he was in Coventry, as aforesaid, two pedlers of the Sirname of Callon, but whose Christian names this informant cannot recollect, (natives of Scotland as informant believes,) and who usually travelled the counties of Warwick and Stafford, came several times to this informant's brother's house in Coventry aforesaid, and bought of the said Thomas Lightowler, several parcels of such counterfeit shillings, and paid for the same, part in money and part in goods, after the rate of twenty-three shillings for the pound sterling: And this informant saith, he never was interested in the several transactions aforesaid, but only privy by being apprentice to his said brother as aforesaid; that he was often very uneasy both on his brother's account, and his own, and absented himself from his said brother's service to prevent the consequences attending such unlawful dealings: And this informant further saith, that about the time last aforesaid, Thomas Jones of Stone in Staffordshire, baker, came to this informant's brother's house in Coventry aforesaid, and look'd at the shilling dyes, and then ordered ten pounds of counterfeit shillings to be made for him, nine pounds whereof were afterwards made, and this informant's brother afterwards set out to carry the same to the said Thomas Jones, and when he return'd, said he had delivered the same to him according to order: And this informant further saith, that the eldest of the aforementioned Callans, the last time he was at Coventry, turned the fly that his quantity might be more expeditiously coined.

Sworn before me this 8th. June, 1756. }

SAUNDERS WELCH. }

HENRY LIGHTOWLLER.

to have the habeas as speedy as possible, which was accordingly obtained and sent to the sheriffs, who neglected the immediate execution thereof; in the mean time, on a Saturday, being about one o'clock in the afternoon, I was surprized with an account that Lightowler had made his escape by a false key, with which he opened the front door, and was astonished that he should be so daring to attempt it in the middle of the day, and in the center of the town, where he was universally known; I could not but suspect there had been some bribery in the case, and the goaler had knowingly permitted it; and the more so, as I was informed that the goaler had been seen a few minutes before in the street, looking as if to see if the road was clear; the moment I heard the report, I ran to the goal to examine the truth, and sent for the sheriffs, whose conduct in neglecting to send him away, I could not but severely condemn; they were as affrighted, I was enraged, and immediately sent out in pursuit; and I much concerned returned to finish my dinner, which I had scarcely sat down to, before a man almost out of breath, came with intelligence that Lightowler was retaken; being as much surprized at his being so speedily found, I a second time left the table to be satisfied of the truth, and soon met the sheriffs, goaler, and prisoner, the goaler cursing and threatening him with the barbarous means by which he would make him safe: I immediately attacked the goaler (whether he was in earnest or only pretence, I did not know) but I publicly discharged him from exercising any cruelty on his prisoner who was justifiable in endeavouring to save his life, whereas he had been guilty of a much worse crime, either the neglect of duty, or a wilful breach of trust.

Upon my going into the prison, Lightowler desired he might speak to me alone, which I consented to, not doubting what I had said to the goaler had made some impression upon him; my friends present endeavoured to persuade me not to venture myself along with so dangerous a man, and who knew he was in a desperate situation, without the least hopes of escaping conviction, or pardon if convicted; my own resolutions prevailed, and I attended him in a private room; he first thanked me for my tender and kind interposition

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with

with the goaler in respect to his threats, and that if I would give him the hearing, as he knew he was sure to die, was both willing and desirous of making some discoveries of great importance, and mentioned Tilley as a person who had been as deeply concerned in all his transactions, had been the cause of his first coming to Coventry; not being prepared, I promised I would come to him after having finished my dinner, fearful any knowledge of his intentions might reach the ears of his accomplices and occasion them making their escape; I returned to him as speedy as possible, first endeavouring to secure Tilley, sent to him to desire the favour of seeing his copy of the bill of sale given by Lightowler, but was disappointed by his being from home; I then took Lightowler's confession or information, * dated the 9th of June, 1756, which took me up a considerable

* City of COVENTRY } Thomas Lightowler upon his examination taken before me John Hewitt,
 To wit. } Mayor, and one of his majesty's justices of the peace for this city, upon oath
 faith, That one Robert Hudson of — near on the road from Birmingham to Stratford, two computed miles on the said road, near Mr. Bolton's of Snowhill, flitting mills, was in partnership with one G. Birch, did tell this informant, that they, the said Hudson and Birch had a Press, in which they made twenty seven pieces, and half twenty seven pieces, and that it was in the possession of the said Birch, the dyes in the house of one John Clark at — which Clark brought this Informant three or four pieces of the said coin of their making, and offered with his son-in-law, to give this informant seven guineas to make two pair of dyes for their making the same coin, but this informant refused; this informant saw in the said persons custody, a pair or set of dyes for that purpose, which the said persons had, made by one Obediah Moore, of King's-Stanly Lodge, upon Sutton Goldfield, in the county of Warwick: And farther this informant says, that about two years since, he boarded at the house of one Edward Crosby, jobbing smith and stamper in Lichfield Street, Birmingham, who asked this informant if he would join him in making of shillings and sixpences, and that he, the said Crosby offered to find a capital sum to carry on the said trade of Coining, but this informant refused to be concerned: However this informant saith, that he, the said Crosby, pursued the trade and coining, by striking the said pieces upon a bolstering frame and sledge hammer; the dyes he had of his own making, or procuring, the one of queen Anne's face or bust, the other of king William the III. very faint in the resemblance, and which he sent out his wife to dispose of, and took some of them to one Mr. Robert Laws, in Birmingham, near the Old Church; and told this informant, that the said Law said, he would take a quantity of the said coin, in order to encourage this informant to join in the said trade; and the said, Law's wife afterwards told this informant, that she had shewn her a quantity of the said coin by the said Crosby, but whether the said Law made any use of it this informant knows not; but this informant hearing of it, went down to the said Law's wife, and advised her not to meddle with such coin, but she said, that she did not care, for if this informant or Crosby would bring twenty pounds worth of it, she would purchase it: And this informant further saith, that Joseph Lee of Bedworth, and Jonathan Tilley, plumber and glazier, of Coventry, did encourage him to come from

siderable time; as soon as I had finished, I made out a warrant for the apprehending of Tilley, but lest the sight of a constable should intimidate him and he should escape, I sent again a message by my own servant, and ordered a constable to place himself in view of his house; after some time my servant returned, but whether from fear or curiosity, he prevailed upon the servant to call in at a public house, and there examined him if he knew what I wanted, but he told him he did not, more than the message he had delivered; upon his coming to my house, I having other business come before me, I ordered him to wait, he was directly under the care of a constable without his knowing it; as soon as I was at liberty, I called for him, and having him alone, I then reminded him of my having called upon him
some-

from Walfall, and offered to lend this informant a sum of money to assist him in his own business: But at the same time as soon as they had got him fixed, refused to lend him the monies, unless he would lend them his instruments of trade upon a bill of sale, in lieu of cash advanced; and during the absence of this informant, the said Tilley did come to the house of this informant in Coventry, and told Henry Lightowler, a brother of this informant's, that he must lend him assistance in working the press, that this informant had for carrying on the trade of button making, &c. the same instruments he used at the time he worked at Mr. Alcock's and Kempson's, in Birmingham, and the said Tilley did coin shillings in the presence of the said Henry Lightowler; and Tilley sent the said Henry Lightowler to one Dumbleton of Banbury, a baker in the said town, with the said coin, and the said Dumbleton received the said counterfeit coin, and kept as much as he had money to answer, and returned the rest back to the said Tilley; he, the said Henry Lightowler, was only an apprentice to this informant, who at this time was gone to fetch his wife home, who was gone to her friends in Lancashire: And this informant further saith, that the said Tilley and Lee, did send for this informant to the Mermaid tavern of this city, and there told him, if he did not immediately furnish them, the said Tilley and Lee, with a pair of dyes for guineas, pairs, one for each different impression, the said Tilley would immediately put in execution the bill of sale they got from this informant, as aforementioned, or they would arrest him for his note of hand he had gave to Lee for eleven pounds; upon this informant's refusing, they executed the bill of sale against him, this informant, and distressed his family: And further this examinant saith not.

Sworn before me, this 9th day of June, 1756. }
J. HEWITT, Mayor.

THOMAS LIGHTOWLLER.

September 18th, 1753.

ARTICLES of Agreement between Richard Brown, and Thomas Lightowler, Smiths; that is to say, That I Thomas Lightowler promise to pay yearly, or for one year, the sum of ten pounds sterling, for the rent of the house that Richard Brown now possesses, and for me, the said Thomas Lightowler, to enter the premises in the space of one month; as witness our hands, to enter at old Michaelmas next ensuing, rent to then commence.

Witness,

JONATHAN TILLEY.

THOMAS LIGHTOWLLER.

RICHARD BROWN.

sometime before, at the time I committed Lightowler, in order to request the favour of seeing the tools and instruments he had got into his possession from the prisoner; that I likewise informed him of the danger and consequences of keeping such tools, &c. in his custody, and recommended it to him, if he had any such, to deliver them up, that then the crime would fall on Lightowler, from whom he had received them, and I thought he might justify it by the bill of sale; but he positively (as he did before) deny the knowledge of any coining tools, or having in his custody then or the present time: Finding that it was to no purpose to encourage him to a voluntary discovery, or having it in my power to be his friend, I then told him, I had a positive charge against him upon oath, both that he had at that time, and the present, dyes and instruments for making money in his keeping, and upon which charge I should certainly commit him; and upon his being searched, a queen Anne's shilling, that was proved to be one of his own making, found upon him; I then signed his commitment, and ordered him to be taken immediately to goal; he then began to solicit me for his family's sake not to let him go to prison that night, I told him I had put it in his power to have been his own friend, family's and country's friend, but that time was past and not in my power to recal; after he was on his way to goal, recollecting the behaviour of the constables at the searching and apprehending of Lightowler, I sent after the constable, and desired he might be brought back again, having in the mean while sent some persons to search his house and out-houses, as Lightowler had positively said, he was sure the dyes and press were in his keeping: Upon Tilley's being brought back, I insisted upon the constable re-searching him, that I was not satisfied they had done it thoroughly before, and would have him searched over again, and directed them in their proceedings; they having done as far as they thought necessary, I desired they would examine the lining of his breeches, and stroke down the thighs to the knee-band, upon which one said, that he felt something hard at the inside of the knee-band, I ordered them to bring it forth be what it would, and immediately produced a puncheon for the stamping of dyes, the impression of queen Anne's

Anne's head, and agreeable to the queen's counterfeit shilling found upon him; that alone was death by the laws of Britain; he could blame no one but himself, I at his first appearance told him the consequence of such tools in his custody, the concealing of it was inexcusable, for he might have availed himself of the bill of sale, had he at first delivered it up and not concealed and denied it; it was very extraordinary that he should bring it with him to my house: I had nothing more to do than remand him back on his first mittimus; in the mean while, the constables returned without any discovery in the search of his house; having twice experienced how little a magistrate can depend on constables, I determined to attend a second search; the great difficulty I had to encounter, was the unfortunate situation of Tilley's wife, then with child, and near her time of delivery; but the consideration of the injustice received by numbers, and the duty I considered due to my country, balanced against all other circumstances, and I attended a second search; in the garret or upper story of his house, I found a funnel and a pan, with a quantity of mixed metal that had been melted, and a quantity of dross, the remains of a larger parcel; this was indisputable evidence that he had carried on the trade in his own house; I then asked the constables, how they came to suffer such evident proofs to pass unnoticed, and whether they had searched a closet I observed joined the room, they answered in the affirmative, however I determined to re-search every apartment, in order if possible, to discover the dyes, &c. upon examining the closet, I observed a china punch bowl and some basons turned down upon shelves, upon lifting them up, I discovered a compleat set of crucibles which were concealed under, and had been made use of for the melting of metal; upon seeing of which, his wife, poor woman, who had been watching my proceedings, immediately fainted away, which totally disarmed me, and I left the house without proceeding any further; at the same time, I was satisfied she was well acquainted with her husband's proceedings, and knew the consequence of having such instruments found in their keeping, for until she saw me take the crucibles from under the bowl, she attended seemingly unconcerned;

concerned; the unhappy circumstances she was under, and the certainty of her husband's conviction, affected my spirits too much to examine any further that night for the dyes and prefs: The next morning I sent to Bedworth, distant six miles from Coventry, where Lee and his family lived; upon searching the out-houses, the coining-prefs was found concealed in a hay-mow, or some out building, but Lee, for want of conduct and caution, made his escape: Likewise I got possession of the flattening-mill, with which they flattened their metal into bars, either to answer the size of sixpences, shillings, &c. The 6th of June, Lightowler was moved to Lancaster in order to take his trial, upon the bill of indictment found against him at the last assizes, as is mentioned in Mr. Chamberlayne's information.

I directly sent to Mr. Chamberlayne an account of my success and proceedings, with a warrant against Henry Lightowler, and issued warrants for the apprehending the rest of the confederates, viz. David Lee of Bedworth, Dumbleton of Banbury, Jones of Stone, Callan, a Scotch pedlar, Clark of Seerhole, and Robert Hudson; all of which in a few days, except the two last, were taken and brought before me, and upon evidence proving them accomplices in the city of Coventry, I committed them to take their trials for their respective offences; for my further proceedings, until the time of the assizes, I refer my readers to the letters * and examinations that hereafter follow, excepting the surrender of Lee, which

S I R,

* London 10th. June, 1756.

I am much concern'd you have missed Lee, you will find by my last, that I have taken care of Henry Lightowler, I intended sending after Dumbleton so soon as I had his Christian name, as to Jones of Stone, I hope you will take care of him. I am Sir,

your most obedient servant.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

S I R,

Inclosed you receive H. Lightowler's information, and also the letter. The principal officers of the mint are much obliged to you for your great zeal and vigilance in these affairs. I have no warrant against Lightowlers. I must beg of you at your leisure, to send me copies of all the informations that have been taken in these affairs. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

London, 17th June, 1756.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

The inclosed letter is the nearest your description, I never had one signed only with initial letters.

The

which was as followeth : Between two and three o'clock in the morning, a few days before the assizes, I was surprized by a great knocking at my door, calling up my servant, upon his opening the door

S I R,

The King against Joseph Lee.

YOU have hereby notice, to produce at the assizes, to be held in the city of Coventry, in the county of the same city, on Wednesday, the eighteenth day of August, instant; a certain paper, writing, or deed, purporting to be a bill of sale from one Thomas Lightowler to Jonathan Tilley, the same being lately in your custody, and intended to be made use of at the said assizes, on the part of the defendant. Dated the seventeenth day of August, 1756.

S I R,

I am glad Lee is in custody, why he surrendered I cannot imagine, unless by way of defence, he intends to shew that the coining press found in his house, was the property of Thomas Lightowler, and taken under the bill of sale to him. Henry Lightowler is a positive evidence against him, but then it is to be considered, that in the eye of the law he is an accomplice, which makes circumstantial evidence from the persons necessary, in order to corroborate his testimony, which I hope you have got. I intend being at Coventry, at least, two days before the assizes, in order to consult you, and have your assistance in settling the business. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

London, 20th July, 1756.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

Please to direct. To John Jeffrey's Esq;
Member of Parliament at
Mr. Chamberlayne's in
Gough Square, London.

To John Hewitt, Esq;
Mayor of Coventry.

S I R,

Lancaster, August 3, 1756.

Since my last, I have more fully recollected the Callan you have taken up, his name is Samuel, if the right person he hath had specie at separate times, and the monies return'd was given to John Tilley, which both I and my brother Henry can make appear; but whether or no they parted with it, that I cannot tell, but I suppose they did not keep it; and 'tis not treason without they paid it again; however, they doubtless converted it to some use: As to Jones of Stone, I really know him not, this afore said Samuel Callan, had a partner, one Gordon, whose Christian name I forgot, neither do I know where he lives, they having parted some time since. I should be glad if you could get intelligence of my brother Henry, if he knows him, or whether he ever saw him with Samuel Callan; I absolutely did not think of this person when I was last with you. I cannot be of any further service, as I know of, until I am called on, which I earnestly beg may be next assizes, and if you please to importune the solicitor, or who you think most proper, because there will be time enough to be at Coventry and back here before these assizes, though I am under indictment here, yet as that affair in Coventry has no connection with this, and my brother's evidence alone, in some cases, will not be sufficient. I should be glad there was an end of it, otherwise I must, I doubt, tarry all winter here; if I get well over this affair, which I hope will be so: I am much obliged that you have laid the proposals before proper persons, which I expect may have a good effect, and shall rely upon your promise, which I have not the least reason to call in question; and if you
favour

door, Lee with some other person made their appearance, when Lee said, he was come to surrender himself, and desired he would immediately acquaint me with it; I was surprized at his coming at so improper and unseasonable a time, I immediately ordered my servant to call up a constable, and that Lee should remain under his care until day-light; this was done, but upon finding himself disappointed in his intentions, he pulled out a loaded pistol and fired it in the air; with what views he surrendered I never understood, otherwise than owing to the advice of a Mr. Cater of Sowe, who was looked upon as a knowing man in the law business, and to whom the country people frequently applied and relied upon; in the case of Lee, their could not be the least hopes, the coining press, &c. found in his custody, was sure to convict him, and he could not expect to be admitted an evidence, as none was wanting.

Henry Lightowler had great merit, it appeared he left his brother to avoid the fate he expected if he continued with him, his letter is the strongest proof of his honest intentions. The same may be said with respect to Charles Higginson, a very sober youth, who was betrayed into the belief of getting a guinea a day, without knowing the consequences; but Lee had in conjunction with Tilley, brought

favour me with a line of your opinion, in regard to my coming or not up to Coventry shortly, will much oblige, Your most obedient and humble servant,

THO. LIGHTOWLLER.

Any one may be sensible, had I complied with Tilley and Lee's demands, I should not have suffered myself to have been so much distressed by them.

To John Hewitt, Esq;
Mayor in Coventry. These

SIR,

Lancaster Castle, August 10, 1756.

AS nothing can give me a more convincing proof of your humane discretion, so I repose the greatest trust in your knowledge, in regard to your last to me; I have dealt upon terms of truth, and honour, I imagine by this you find it so, and rely upon your promise, which I hope will not go unrewarded, if life permit: Lee you are sensible, is a person who always hath lived upon the spoil, and ruin of others, in obscene practices, not in regard to his present charge, but in others, methods in regard to the silk manufactory, which, I believe, is sufficiently known by several in Coventry; and when I can be of no longer service to my country, then will submit to fate, till when I remain, your most obedient and humble servant,

T. LIGHTOWLLER.

Sir, a line will much oblige
your humble servant.

To John Hewitt, Esq;
Mayor in Coventry.

brought Lightowler to Coventry, had supported him, and very artfully obtained a bill of sale for their security, as well as for money lent, as a pretence or excuse for having in their keeping, tools they knew the use and consequences of. Lee's coming to me at so unusual a time, shew'd he meant first to try me whether I would admit him an evidence, and in case of refusal, to force a retreat by dint of arms, of which the loaded pistol was a sufficient proof; I therefore after a very short examination, committed him to take his trial as an accomplice with Thomas Lightowler and Tilley; the last man had always been noticed for his skill in mixing metals, but being a man otherwise of a fair character, his conduct passed unnoticed during his connections with Thomas Lightowler. Lee was just the contrary, his father a man whose character was generally suspected, and who was frequently called forth to vindicate his conduct and concerns amongst the manufacturers.

I must carry my readers back to the commitment of Tilley; having secured the coining press, &c. I met Mr. Wyrley agreeable to an appointment by him, and requested by me; he backed my warrants, but at the same time expressed his wishes to me, that I would not be too forward in expences, lest I should meet with the disappointment he had done with respect to the due attendance, upon my proceedings as well as the repayment of my expences. I sent in pursuit of Callan, a travelling pedlar, who after a few days was apprehended, and committed by me to the goal of this city; on the 15th of June, Thomas Jones * was apprehended at Stone in Staffordshire,

* City of COVENTRY { Thomas Jones upon oath saith, That about three years since, this informant was at the house of one Dewsby, a silver-smith or jeweller. To wit. { facing the Old Cross in Birmingham; having a sleeve-button from one Mr. Codwins, of Stone in Staffordshire, that was wanting a stone to be set in it, which this informant took to the said Dewsby, that he was taken into a room by the said Dewsby in which there was several persons drinking; that he took the button, and after having put in the stone, told this informant, that as it was for him, he would take nothing for it: This informant saith, that he hath been in the said Dewsby's work-shop several times, and being shewn a fly belonging to a coining press, or stamp for money, which was taken from the house of Joseph Lee, of Bedworth, and now in my custody, saith, That he remembers seeing one of the same kind in the said Dewsby's shop, and which fly he has seen the said Dewsby turn about, and to the best of his knowledge the said fly had two leaden weights hanging at each end.

Sworn, June 15th, 1756. {
J. HEWITT, Mayor. }

THOMAS JONES,
his X mark.

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and

and Dumbleton at Banbury: Charles Higginson * was taken up and examined at the same time, who made the tenth of the gang; seven secured in Coventry goal, and three in London; the whole number amounted to between twenty and thirty that were concerned in the mint at Coventry, as appears by letters, all of whom had learned the art to do business in the absence of Thomas Lightowler; who besides this company, he was at the head of others in different parts of the kingdom, which were discovered and dispersed. The reason why I did not commit Charles Higginson was, I considered him as a proper person to make an evidence of, though I did not acquaint him until the day of the assize with my intentions.

Having some reason to complain of neglect, agreeable to Mr. Wyrley's account, I wrote a peremptory letter to the solicitor, that as I had taken so much pains, and had been at so considerable expence, if I found him wanting in his duty, I should write to the secretary of state for assistance in the carrying on the prosecution; upon which I received the letter dated the 8th of June: Matters rested until the near approach of the assizes; thinking the trying these persons would require an extra day, I stated the matter to the

* County of the City } The information of Charles Higginson, of the city of Coventry, of Coventry to wit. } baker, taken this eighteenth day of August, 1756, before me John Hewitt, mayor of the said city: Who being upon oath saith, That in the months of June or July, 1754, he this informant, worked with Thomas Lightowler, of the city of Coventry, engine turner, as his artied servant, and to learn the business of engine turning; and that during that time he has seen Jonathan Tilley, of the city of Coventry, glazier, and the said Thomas Lightowler, coining shillings with the press now in my custody. That Joseph Lee, late of Bedworth, ribband weaver, has often come to this informant's master, the said Thomas Lightowler, two or three times a week, and once brought a silver tankard, which was afterwards cut to pieces and melted down by the said Thomas Lightowler, with copper, and run it into flat bars, and drawn through the draw-bench to about the thickness of a shilling, which he then pretended was to make into buttons, but this informant never saw any buttons made, but has seen the same things made into shillings. And this informant has seen Thomas Dumbleton at the said Thomas Lightowler's house, asking if he was flush of money, and this informant hath carried a parcel to the said Dumbleton's, which he believes to be some of the counterfeit money.

Sworn before J. HEWITT, }
Mayor, Aug. 18th, 1756. }

CHARLES HIGGINSON.

judges.

judges. * See the answer, 29th June. The day before the affizes the solicitor came down to attend them, when to my great surprize, he had not retained one council for the king; said he was disappointed, and relied on Mr. Serjeant Willes, though he had been gone to Ireland several months before, as Lord chief Baron: I insisted upon his sending an express to Northampton, where the judge and coucil then were, and to Mr. Guelt, who with Mr. Taylor White, were the only council at liberty; the others, the prisoner's attorney had retained in their behalf, by whose great attention they all hoped to escape, relying upon Thomas Lightowller being the only evidence against them. I found every stratagem not to undeceive them in

S I R,

* London, 29th June, 1756.

Lord C. J. Willes goes the Midland circuit, I have attended him to get a day longer at Coventry, but have not been able to speak to him; however, I have laid your letter before him and will acquaint you with his resolution. I have ordered H. Lightowller a weekly allowance, to keep him above want. If you can, it would be highly proper, to get against the trials, one or two of the counterfeit shillings. I am, Sir,

Please for the future, to direct to
John Jeffreys Esq: Member of Parliament,
at Mr. Chamberlayne's, in Gough Square, London.

Your most obedient humble servant.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLAYNE.

COVENTRY } The Examination of John Gilbert, of the parish of St. Michael's, within the
To wit. } city of Coventry aforesaid, salesman, taken upon oath this 14th day of August, 1756, before me, John Hewitt, Mayor of the said city.

Who being upon oath faith, That about seven or eight months ago, he being employed to sell the goods of Samuel Welton, brazier, of the city aforesaid; and that David Lee of Bedworth, in the county of Warwick, broker, and two of his sons, attended the said sale; and one of whom having bought a saucepan, offered two shillings for the payment thereof, which this informant believing to be bad, applied to one Mr. Cratern for his opinion, who pronouncing them bad, the same was returned to the said Lee's son; and this informant further faith not.

Sworn at the said city, the day and year above }
written, before me, J. HEWITT, Mayor. }

JOHN GILBERT.

The disposition of the Money.

	£.	s.	d.			
John Spell	2	0	0	Tilley's	John Spell	Tilley.
Samuel Brown	2	0	0		Jonathan Bailey	do.
Henry Lightowller	7	10	0		Thomas Daws	do.
Charles Higginson	1	0	0		Samuel Brown	do.
William Pentlow	7	10	0		Johnson.	
Jonathan Bailey	1	0	0		Jackson.	
Thomas Downs	1	0	0			
	22	0	0			

Jonathan Bailey Lee.
Thomas Daws do.
Francis Moore do.
Hanfell.
Charles Wainwright.

in that particular necessity. though I never thought of making Thomas Lightowler an evidence, expecting that he would certainly be convicted at Lancaster, and if so, must surely suffer, who had been the first cause of such infinite injury to this country, and as the same evidence would appear to prove him coining, upon what Healys had been convicted for being the standers-by, only as his pupils.

Henry Lightowler was brought down by the keeper of new prison directly to my house with his fetters on, as evidence for the crown (he should have come at perfect liberty;) to prevent his having any conversation with the prisoners, I sent him to a private room, previous to which, I and the solicitor got off his fetters in my cellar, so that the plan of our proceedings principally remained a secret with myself. The briefs not being settled, had not been delivered to council; considering the strength of council against us, and the short time to be prepared to try all the prisoners, I thought it most advisable to try only two, and put off the trials of the others till the next assize.

Lord Chief Baron Smythe came to town the next day, before whom the assizes was to be held; Tilley and Lee were put to the bar, and had their choice of being tried jointly or separately, they both chose the former: They were indicted for coining, and for having coining tools in their possession, which were proved against them by indisputable evidence, and upon which they were found guilty. Tilley's behaviour was both insolent and abusive to me and the court, which did him great hurt in the opinion of the people, as well as determined the judge with respect to their fate, and he left them without any hopes of a reprieve. The public service I did the country upon this occasion, as it hath, upon almost every other act of public service, created some irreconcilable enemies, though most unjustly and ungratefully so, because the unhappy man Tilley was in their debt, and upon a pardon, engaged to pay. See an anonymous letter.*

S I R,

YOUR worship's conduct as a magistrate appears to me worthy of encomiums, permit me nevertheless, who have no other motive than what flows from pure compassion, to be an advocate

* Friday, 27th August, 1756.

Callan, Dumbleton, and Jones, remained to the next assizes. Henry Lightowler, and Charles Higginson were discharged. Thomas Lightowler took his trial at Lancaster, and to the surprize of all the country, was acquitted. I doubt not the history of this man, as far as I can give it, will be very acceptable to my readers, as well as entertaining: A detainer was lodged against him at Lancaster, in order for his removal to take his trial at Coventry; he

advocate for the distressed—for the distressed situation of the wives and children of the unhappy prisoners under sentence of death!—a sentence however just, calls for the pity of the generous and humane,—let that pity, the bright inhabitant of the human breast, plead in their behalf, and, in the imitation of our Saviour's divine example, of overcoming evil with good; let Tilley's treatment of your worship be an occasion of displaying your heroism, by more than forgiving it (supposing it other than the effect of liquor, which can hardly admit) by using your endeavours, that after judgment, mercy; (that bright attribute of the Deity) may be remembered: I don't mean by wholly remitting the sentence, but by mitigating the severity of it, by getting it exchanged for transportation or otherwise, which is thought by some judicious persons, might be effected by your hand to a petition, and that of the body corporate, or the members, Mr. Greathead, and Mr. Grove; but the manner of it (as well as the matter) is submitted to the superior judgment of your worship, and their worships your brethren. Perhaps you'll say that lenity to individuals is cruelty to multitudes; in some cases it is so, and I am far from extenuating the crime of coining, but bad as it is in its nature, and though the law has made it high treason, it is not the worst species of it, it neither conspires against the life of his majesty, nor intentionally any of his subjects; and I submit it, with due difference, to the laws I live under (for which I give the greatest reverence) whether it should give the same punishment; and here I must beg pardon for the seeming boldness of my animadversions, which nothing would have occasioned but my concern for the unhappy delinquents,—a concern in which I am joined by many, whose feeling hearts bleed for the distressed bringing upon themselves (the prisoners) and families. If they had not been men of good characters before their engaging in this unjustifiable and pernicious practice, unhappy for 'em, (which properly represented to his majesty would surely, from his known clemency, have weight;) I should not have taken up my pen in their behalf, and though they might have known there was a law which made it a capital crime, it's possible they might not apprehend the injury it might be of to the public, but thought it (their money) would pass current; and this I even think probable from their general good character, and it no way contradicts what appeared on their trial, with regard to trading in it. Some punishment for example sake to be sure is due: *Quere*, whether they might not, if other than death, become useful members of society. I must not omit a circumstance, I think in Tilley's favour, and that is Ann Johnson, his servant, (the truth of which may be known, by enquiry of her father Thomas Johnson, who works with Mr. Craner the currier) made a mistake in saying, that the mass which came out of the copper, or furnace, was like a lump of lead, and the confusion and hurry she was in, hindered her from clearing it up before the court; she meant to say what it really was, a lump of brass. I am, Sir,

Your worship's most respectful and obedient servant.

ANONYMOUS.

remained

remained at Lancaster during the winter, and was then removed. Lee and Tilley suffered pursuant to their sentence.

Before the next assize I waited on the solicitor of the mint, in order to have the briefs for council prepared, and council retained; the solicitor assured me nothing should be wanting, and proposed our going down together, but to my surprize set out before me; when I as speedily as possible set out post after him, and arrived in Coventry as the judge was going to court, to open his commission: I followed immediately, but to my great astonishment, the solicitor and council were admitting to bail, and discharging all the prisoners without giving me an opportunity to speak upon the subject; without my ever receiving or knowing to this day, the least pretence for so doing: The consequences I then foretold would be fatal to numbers, and injurious to the public in general. From the account I have published of his life almost from his birth, fully evince that it was not in his power to refrain, or reform. The executing four of his pupils for being taught by him, his treasonable trade, and the chief offender to escape with impunity, discouraged me from proceeding any further, and the business ended, as Mr. Wyrley prognosticated. I never heard of Lightowler, until the year 1763, being at Sheffield upon an enquiry after the retreat of that numerous confederacy, the Coventry gang, and engaged with one of the justices on that business; I was very suddenly called upon by the drawer by my name, that a gentleman wanted to speak to me; I was a little surprized, as well as displeased, to hear my name mentioned, as I had given a strict charge to the person I took with me, and who was at his own friend's house, not to mention my being in town, and was more surprized to be shewn into a parlour to Mr. Lightowler, whom I had not seen nor heard of for so long a time: I immediately expressed my hopes that he had made a proper use of the lenity he had met with at Coventry; to which he immediately replied, that the business he came to me upon, was to convince me he had done so, and was determined never to follow the coining trade any more; to convince me of which, he gave me a letter he had received from Coventry, requesting him to send a pair

pair of dyes for the coining of 5s 3d. pieces, that he had refused to do it; the person was a Baker, and was after unfortunately shot in St. George's Fields. I took my leave of him, and wished him to continue in the same mind; but in the year—— when that large body of coiners were discovered in Yorkshire, at which time Stell, who was convicted and suffered was taken up: Previous to my hearing of those matters, between the hours of ten and eleven at night, was surprized at a violent wrapping at my door, upon opening, Mr. Lightowler presented himself, upon my demanding his business at so late an hour, he said he wanted some papers that remained in my hands; I told him if it was possible to look them up, it could not be at so late an hour, or of two or three days search, amongst papers filed so many years back, if they were in being; that I was then going to bed and could not say any thing more, that he might call in the morning; he then urged me to give him the hearing, and said he had it in his power to make the greatest discovery I ever had laid before me; I desired to be excused, and told him I had not been paid the expences I was at upon the mint account before, and would have nothing more to do with him or his discoveries; upon which he retired. In a few days after, in a letter from Yorkshire, I received an account of his flight from thence, and several of his accomplices being in custody, particularly Stell of Keighly, who was afterwards convicted and executed at York; the hue and cry came too late, to prevent Mr. Lightowler's escape out of the kingdom.

The last account I received of him was, that he lived at Vienna, and was employed by the Emperess Queen, had a fallery of two or three hundred pounds per annum; and his daughter married to a person employed by that court. She came to Coventry about six years since, for the benefit of her native air, being in a bad state of health.

Thus after the great injury society in general received, did this great offender escape with impunity, and carry with him variety of arts for the benefit of a foreign country, and to the prejudice of Great Britain, which might have been prevented, if in the year 1756, he

he had been confined and employed in the mint, sent to the East-Indies, or settlements in Africa.

The dyes, &c. were allowed by the officers of the mint, when produced at Coventry, as neatly finished with an apparatus, equally complete as any in the tower.



Directions concerning the Allum House.

TH E boiling pans of lead, 8 feet long five broad, and two feet and a half deep, or thereabouts; the lowest price for casting and making up the work, in all an inch thick quite through the work; two settlers the same with the pans.

The pits four, to be flagged, each 9 yards long 5 wide and a yard deep at the deep-end, and 30 inches at the shallow end; the working of a pit of this proportion will require 6 men, the work will amount to 68 feet every square yard which is the lowest rate that can be. The rates of the rubbish, if earth two-pence per yard, if rock four-pence. Iron for the pan according to this proportion for the pans to be set on 6 plates to every pan, all of 6 will contain 18C. wt. the iron must be cast iron according to the usual rate 8l. per ton; every plate 5 feet long 18 inches broad and 1 inch thick, iron square and flat for the pans in fire to be set on, for every pan 3C. wt. about 24 shillings the hundred. The rate for the boiler or allum maker 30l. per year, the mine burner the same. The rate for kilp 50 shillings the ton, this is the highest; the kilp men agree with the lord of the soil for the kilp, and the lord of the mine carries it to the mine from the place where it is burned. The rate for urine is 1d. for four gallons being one firkin, four of which make an horse load; the lord of the mine is to be at the cost of bringing it to the mine and of the firkins. There must be two mother cisterns and one washing cistern in the old house. 40 Yards of planks 2 inch thick and 9 broad of the coarsest wood sawn; the length of the house 15 yards 6 wide, the length of the sparrs 4 yards.

Charges

DIRECTIONS concerning the ALLUM HOUSE. 57

Charges of making one Ton of Allum.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Kilp and Urine	3	3	0	Smith, Cooper, Mine burner	1	0	0
80 Load of Coals	2	6	0	Allum-maker and Clerks	1	0	0
Rock Rubbish	1	0	10	Plates and Iron	0	7	6
Cord-wood	0	6	0	Planks and Boards	0	3	0
Pumping and pitting	0	10	4	Castling Pans, cutting down	0	2	0
House Men	0	6	6	and Repairs			

At the first filling up your pans put in 15 tons of mother, and 5 tons of green liquor, boil down your pan 3 tons, then give her 3 tons more of green liquor; if your liquor 8dwt. then 4 times taking up will shew if it be heavier less taking, if she be lighter more taking, then take assay of her, and if she be 36dwt. then draw her, if she exceeds that, she's boiled too gross; provided that she hath 8 ton of kilp lees; before you draw, let her stand 3 hours in your settlers, then draw her, and as she runs off take assay, one at the top, another at the middle, and if she's 29dwt. at the middle, and 28dwt. at the top, you must give her an inch of urine, if she be 28dwt. in the middle, give her but half an inch.

Ordinary liquor is 28dwt. kilp lees 3dwt. urine 2dwt. or 2 and a half, green liquor 8dwt.

For the roaching, take it out of the benne, and put it into the roaching pan, and as soon as you discern it to boil, draw your fire, and soap your allum into your tuns.

N. B. You may set betwixt 28 and 34dwt. in cold weather, and at 36dwt. in warm weather.

Every pit of liquor must stand 24 hours, then draw all off, being weakest, called liquor; then come on with your 2dwt. liquor, which is to continue 24 hours more, then draw off: after that comes your best 2dwt. liquor, and pump her into a dry mine bed, and let her stand 24 hours, and then draw her off; this is the liquor that ought to be full 8dwt. what is over and above shews the richness of the mine.

N. B. Every cooler full of mothers fill a pan.

P

Pro-

Proposals and Plan of the File Manufactory.

AS there is always a demand for both foreign and domestic (and that in large quantities) which by getting up in so expeditious a manner, and to as great perfection as is performed by hand, will enable a company to sell a halfpenny per pound less than the file-cutters can, and by that means the merchant will sooner deal, allowing common discount for ready money, which is five per cent; and if the goods be sold under price, and half a years credit, there is no obligation of discount, but if they should require discount, then the goods ought to be sold at the price as others do; if one is obliged to allow more discount than others do, then a company that can bear stock will have the trade, which if interest can be made to the members of parliament for the city, in order for a patent, which there is no fear of obtaining, it will be as fine a manufactory as any in England, and of great service to your city, because it will employ a number of hands when completed. I purpose the machine to consist of 8 blocks and hammers with their furniture, allowing two hammers to one sort of work, which I intend to get up only four sorts, that is to say, coarse files from 12 lb. wt. to half a lb. wt. coarse bastard, fine bastard, and smooths, being the chief sorts that are commonly used; these hammers, one with another, will perform 15000 blows per minute, when all at work, every two hammers will finish in the coarse way 500 weight per day, in the coarse bastard, 300 do. fine bastard, 250 lb. wt. per day, and smooths 150 lb. per day, which in all will be 1200 lb. wt. per day, allowing one man to each hammer: There will be a grinding mill wanted to grind the files at; the water works will not serve for both uses, the cutting part will not at all damage the water works, because it requires but small force, so that if they are not disposed of, that building which is now vacant will answer the end very well. I have underneath calculated the daily expence, but first that of compleating the works, and of the consumption of coals, and steel per day, and first the hammers with their machinery.

For

For the cutting Mill.

	£.	s.	d.
I find 8 hammers will cost 40l. each	320	0	0
A complete set of tools for the smith's forge	30	0	0
Three ton of iron flat and square, at 16l. per ton	48	0	0
Half a ton of steel, at 24l. per ton	12	0	0
Timber that will be wanted	20	0	0

There will be some stone wanted, but I cannot tell how much, because I do not know the dimensions of the place.

A grinding mill if a building is already erected, grind-stones and timber will cost

There will be required where the works are complete, 30 firemen each fireman must have a hearth, anvil, bel-lows, hammers, and swages at 6l. per set

	s.	d.		s.	d.
30 Forgers at	3	0	per day each.	Smith's men	1 4
30 Strikers at	3	0	_____	Chissel men	1 8
10 Grinders at	2	6	_____	Carpenter	1 8
8 Hammermen	3	0	_____	Man for lead	} 1 0
Smith	6	0	_____	blocks	

12 C. lb wt. steel at 1l. 4s. od. per C. 2 ton of coals at 6d. per C.

Ware and tare 20s.

I propose the machine to consist of 8 hammers with their blocks for cutting files upon, each block with its furniture (as near as I can possibly calculate) will not cost 40l. the hammer belonging to the blocks I can make each one to strike 3000 blows per minute, and I find by that (a man and boy to each hammer) will finish of the largest files called rubbers, and long flats, 500 wt. per day when all is in order, which files are sold at 5d. per lb, the lowest price.

	£.	s.	d.
Coarse bastard files are sold at	0	0	6 per lb.
Fine bastard do. at	0	0	8
Smooths large and small in the common way	0	0	10

I propose the machine to cut of coarse bastard 300 wt per day, of fine bastard do. 250 per day, and smooth 150.

500C. 300C. 250C. 150C.

all files in the common way $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz.

Blows.	wt. of files,
4000	500
	300
5000	250
6000	150
15000	1200

18lb. to a gross of 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ files	at	2s. 6d:	
27 to do. ——— 2 do. ———	at	2	6 per gross forging.
36 to do. ——— 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ do. ———	at	2	6 per do. Striker to this
54 to do. ——— 3 do. ———	at	3	0 do. [size & all following
72 to do. ——— 4 do. ———	at	4	0 per do.
90 to do. ——— 5 do. ———	at	5	0 per do.
108 to do. ——— 6 do. ———	at	6	0 per do.
176 to do. ——— 7 do. ———	at	7	0 per do.
194 to do. ——— 8 do. ———	at	8	0 per do.

For all sizes above these are sold at 8d. per lb.
Such as large rubbers a man at 7d. 6d. and 5d. per lb.

The Works to finish 108l. per Day of Work.

	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
8 hammers at 1 8 pr. day,	0	13	4			For the cutting mill.
2 spare hands 1 4 do.	0	2	8			8 Hammers 40l. each.
the smith 4 0 do.	1	4	0			A set of smith's tools 30l.
30 men 3 0 do.	4	10	0			3 Tons of iron at 16l. per ton.
30 Strikers 3 0 do.	4	10	0			Half a ton of Steel at 24l. per ton
Grinders						Timber 20l.
Coals						Grinding millstones, timber 140l.
Steel 120C. at 1s. 4d. pr C.	14	8	0			30 sets tools for the file forger 180l.

Daily Expende.

	£.	s.	d.
30 Fire men with their strikers at 2s. 0d. per day each	9	0	0
10 Grinders of the files ——— at 2 6 do. ———	1	5	0
8 Hammer men cutting files at 3 0 do. ———	1	4	0
Smith ——— at 6 0 do. ———	0	6	0
Smith's man ——— at 1 4 do. ———	0	1	4
A man to grind the chissels for the cutters at 1s. 8d. do.	0	10	0
Carpenter ——— at 1 8 do. ———	0	1	8
A man to make lead blocks for the cutters 1 0 do.	0	1	0
12C. lb. wt. steel at 1l. 4s. 0d. per C. ———	14	0	0
Coals for 30 forgers 2 ton per day at 10s. per ton ———	1	0	0
Ware and tare of the mills and tools of all sorts ———	1	0	0
	27	17	0

I find that the works will finish 12 C. lb. wt. of files per day, which when at market will bring 108l. this is as near as I can collect from the prices of the different kinds of work that must be done, exclusive of carriage from the grinding mill to the cutting mill, and some other small trifles.



